GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2827
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
PUBLIC OPINION ON RIVER LINKING PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has called upon Non-Government Organisation to mobilize public opinion in support of interlinking rivers;

(b) if so, whether the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has also prepared any proposal to mobilize public opinion in support of interlinking of rivers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to overcome the major challenges of the water sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission

(CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas for optimum utilization of water resources. The NPP comprises two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Report (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links

(Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed.

Further, a Memorandum of Understanding for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the links in Peninsular Component Namely Ken-Betwa link was signed among the Central Government and State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25th August, 2005. Subsequently, the Central Government entrusted the preparation of the DPR of the aforesaid link to NWDA.